

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 240095

61
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY AF/S:FWISNER
APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY
S/S - PSBRIDGES

----- 022193

O 272215Z SEP 76 ZFF6
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY LUSAKA NIACT IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY GABORONE IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 240095

NODIS
FOR AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT KAUNDA

1. PLEASE DELIVER THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT
KAUNDA:

2. QUOTE: DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: I APPRECIATED THE MESSAGE
YOU SENT ME YESTERDAY AFTER YOU AND YOUR COLLEAGUES, THE
FRONT LINE PRESIDENTS, COMPLETED YOUR MEETING IN LUSAKA.
IT IS IMPORTANT THAT WE BE CLEAR WITH ONE ANOTHER IF THE
PROCESS TOWARDS A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF THE RHODESIAN
PROBLEM IS TO CONTINUE ON THE COURSE WE BOTH BELIEVE
POSSIBLE.

3. I MUST TELL YOU IN ALL FRANKNESS THAT WHILE WE PUT THE
BEST POSSIBLE FACE ON IT, THE STATEMENT OF THE PRESIDENTS
LEFT A PAINFUL IMPRESSION HERE. THERE WAS NO REFERENCE
TO A MAJOR U.S. INITIATIVE. THERE WAS THE IMPLICATION
THAT THE WHOLE SCHEME HAD BEEN TURNED DOWN AND ONLY A FEW
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 240095

INITIATES WILL UNDERSTAND THAT ITS MAJOR ELEMENTS HAD BEEN

IN FACT ACCEPTED IN LUSAKA.. THERE IS THE IMPLICATION
THAT THE ENTIRE SCHEME IS A SMITH PROPOSAL WHEN IN FACT
IT HAS BEEN BROUGHT ABOUT BY MASSIVE U.S. PRESSURE.

4. THE BASIC FRAMEWORK OF THE RHODESIAN SETTLEMENT WAS
DISCUSSED WITH YOU AND OTHER FRONT LINE PRESIDENTS IN
DETAIL. THE FIVE POINTS WE AND THE BRITISH DEVELOPED
THROUGH THE PROCESS OF CONSULTATIONS WERE PRESENTED TO YOU.
WE MADE POINT THREE REGARDING THE TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT
AS DETAILED AS WE DID - NOT TO KEEP THE SALISBURY
AUTHORITIES IN POWER BUT PRECISELY FOR THE OPPOSITE REASON:
TO MAKE THE TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT AN IRREVOCABLE BREAK
TOWARD FULL MAJORITY RULE AND TO DEPRIVE SMITH THE
OPPORTUNITY TO HAGGLE AT THE CONFERENCE TABLE. YOU ASSURED
ME THAT YOU HAD NO OBJECTION IN PRINCIPLE TO THESE POINTS
AND MADE IT CLEAR THEY FORMED AN ACCEPTABLE FRAMEWORK FOR
A SETTLEMENT. WE CONDUCTED SIMILAR DISCUSSIONS WITH
PRESIDENT NYERERE AND HE ALSO INDICATED HIS BASIC ACCEPTANCE
AS RESULT OF YOURS AND PRESIDENT NYERERE'S REACTION WE TOLD
IAN SMITH TO GO AHEAD AND MAKE THE ANNOUNCEMENT HE
DELIVERED ON SEPTEMBER 24.

5. IF THERE IS FURTHER NEGATIVE REACTION IN PUBLIC TO THE
PROPOSALS WHICH WE ADVANCED, SMITH AND THE DIE-HARDS IN
SALISBURY WILL HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO BACK AWAY FROM THEIR
COMMITMENT. I AM ALSO RELIABLY INFORMED THAT PRIME MINISTER
VORSTER IS UNDER GREAT PRESSURE IN SOUTH AFRICA. THE PUBLIC
STAND TAKEN BY THE FRONT LINE PRESIDENTS IS SERVING TO
SOLIDIFY SOUTH AFRICAN DOMESTIC OPPOSITION.

6. WE BOTH KNOW THAT THIS PROCESS CANNOT SUCCEED WITHOUT
CONTINUED U.S. PRESSURE. WE CANNOT BE EXPECTED TO MAINTAIN
THE PRESSURE WE HAVE BROUGHT TO BEAR ON THE SALISBURY
AUTHORITIES AND THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT IF THE
POSITIONS WHICH YOU AND YOUR COLLEAGUES ADOPT IN PUBLIC ARE
SO INSENSITIVE TO OUR PROBLEMS.

7. WE MUST KEEP IN MIND WHAT HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED. YOU
ASKED FOR AND WE OBTAINED A COMMITMENT TO MAJORITY RULE IN
TWO YEARS. THE PROPOSALS WE DISCUSSED AND SMITH ACCEPTED
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 240095

ALLOWED FOR THE DESIGNATION OF AN AFRICAN CHIEF MINISTER
AND AN AFRICAN MAJORITY ON THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS. THE
COUNCIL OF STATE IS COMPOSED IN SUCH A WAY THAT THE AFRICAN
MEMBERS EXERCISE AN EFFECTIVE VETO OVER THAT BODY'S
DELIBERATION. IT WAS NOT OUR INTENTION TO MAINTAIN OR
LEGITIMIZE THE PRESENT STRUCTURE OF GOVERNMENT IN SALISBURY.
WE NEGOTIATED A FRAMEWORK WHICH IS BOUND TO RESULT IN THE
UNDOING OF THAT STRUCTURE IN A MATTER OF MONTHS. ALL THAT

CAN KEEP SMITH IN POWER NOW IS FAILURE OF THE AFRICAN
PRESIDENTS TO BRING ABOUT RAPIDLY A TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT.

8. I LOOK FORWARD TO STAYING IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH YOU IN
THE COMING WEEKS. WE MUST BOTH WORK TO MAKE SURE THAT
POSTURES TAKEN IN PUBLIC DO NOT UNDERMINE A SUCCESSFUL
OUTCOME. WE CANNOT BE EXPECTED TO CONTINUE OUR ROLE IF
WE ARE CONSTANTLY ASSAULTED BY THE AFRICAN LEADERS AND OUR
OWN SENSITIVITIES ARE NOT RESPECTED. IN THAT CASE EVENTS
WILL PROCEED INEXORABLY AND VIOLENCE WILL BE THE ULTIMATE
ARBITER WITH ALL THAT IMPLIES. WE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO
CONTINUE TO BRING OUR INFLUENCE TO BEAR ON THE SALISBURY
AUTHORITIES OR THE SOUTH AFRICANS. WITH WARM REGARDS,
HENRY A. KISSINGER. UNQUOTE.

FOR GABORONE: IN THE EVENT THAT KAUNDA HAS ALREADY REACHED
GABORONE, YOU SHOULD DELIVER THE SECRETARY'S MESSAGE. KISSINGER

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, GOVERNMENT REACTION, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, SPEECHES, CAT-C
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: saccheem
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE240095
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: FWISNER
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: P840105-0496, N760007-0355
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760915/aaaaamtcl
Line Count: 132
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN NODS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS, ONLY
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS, ONLY
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: saccheem
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07 JUL 2004 by MartinML>; APPROVED <18 OCT 2004 by saccheem>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT KAUNDA
TAGS: PFOR, PDEV, US, ZA, RH, UK, (KISSINGER, HENRY A), (KAUNDA, KENNETH DAVID), (SMITH, IAN)
To: LUSAKA GABORONE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006